

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 064448

USOECD, EXCON

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: ESTC, COCOM, UK, UR

SUBJECT: UK EXPORT OF VIBRATION TEST SYSTEM TO USSR -
IL 1362

REF: (A) COCOM DOC. (77)597 (B) ANNEX TO COCOM DOC. REV
(74)1362/9 (C) STATE 50496

1. UK EMBASSY HERE HAS REQUESTED THAT WE DELAY FORMAL
OBJECTION TO THE REFERENCED CASE PENDING THEIR STUDY OF
OUR RATIONALE. WE ARE WILLING TO GO ALONG PROVIDED THAT
CASE IS REMOVED FROM AGENDA. ACCORDINGLY, US DEL IS
REQUESTED TO DISCUSS CASE WITH UK DEL, DRAWING ON FOLLOWING:

(A) AFTER CONSIDERABLE REVIEW, WE HAVE CONCLUDED THAT WE
MUST OBJECT TO THE BRITISH CASE (REF (A)) ON THE GROUNDS
THAT THE DIGITAL ANALYSIS EQUIPMENT AND HARDWARE PROVIDED
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BY LING DYNAMIC SYSTEMS LTD. OF THE UK GIVE THIS VTE
SYSTEM THE CAPABILITY OF SUBJECTING TEST OBJECTS WEIGHING
UP TO 3000 POUNDS TO BOTH SINUSOIDAL AND RANDOM VIBRATING
FORCES WITH FREQUENCY RANGES OF BETWEEN 0 TO 2 KHZ AND
DIGITALLY ANALYZING THE RESULTS OBTAINED. WE CONSIDER
THIS CAPABILITY WELL BEYOND THAT NORMALLY REQUIRED FOR
SUCH CIVIL SECTOR APPLICATIONS AS INDUSTRIAL STRUCTURAL

RESEARCH AND TESTING. VTE SYSTEMS OF THIS CALIBER ARE CAPABLE OF SIMULATING RANDOM WAVE FORMS FOR TESTING THE STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY OF SUCH MILITARY USE ITEMS AS ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMBERS FOR AEROSPACE EQUIPMENT AND MISSILE SYSTEMS AS WELL AS THE ITEMS THEMSELVES. INDEED, VTE EQUIPMENT OF THIS CAPABILITY IS SO USED BY THE US NAVY AND OTHER US ARMED FORCES FACILITIES IN THE TESTING OF A VARIETY OF MILITARY-USE COMPONENTS. OF ADDITIONAL CONCERN IS THAT THE CONFIGURATION OF THE SYSTEM APPEARS SUCH THAT EQUIPMENT BEING TESTED COULD BE SEALED IN AN ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMBER PERMITTING SIMULATION OF HIGH ALTITUDE CONDITIONS AND EXTREME TEMPERATURES.

(B) UK SHOULD BE MADE AWARE THAT RATIONALE FOR US OBJECTION IS CONSISTENT WITH THE EXISTING IL 1362 DEFINITION AND WITH THE US 1975 DEFINITION PROPOSAL (REF B). THE FORMER EMBARGOES THE EQUIPMENT UNDER THE "SPECIALIZED ANCILLIARY EQUIPMENT" PROVISIONS; THE LATTER WOULD APPLY (ESPECIALLY) THE PROVISIONS OF SUB-ITEM (3) EMBARGOING DIGITAL ANALYTICAL CAPABILITY. UNDER THAT DEFINITION, HOWEVER, THE 13,500 POUND THRUSTER WOULD HAVE BEEN APPROVABLE. AS A FREE-STANDING, GENERAL PURPOSE COMPUTER, THE DRC BP-11/34 COMPUTER IS EMBARGOED UNDER IL 1565 BUT HAS A RECORD OF APPROVALS IN THE NON-MILITARY SPECIFICATION VERSION. BECAUSE OUR OBJECTION IS BASED ON THE USE OF DIGITAL TECHNIQUES, REVAMPING THE PROPOSED TRANSACTION BY SUBSTITUTING SINGLE CHANNEL ANALOG CONTROLS FOR ANY DIGITAL

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OR HYBRID-DIGITAL CAPABILITY WOULD BE GROUNDS FOR REVIEW BY THE US BASED ON THE LAST USG LIST REVIEW PROPOSAL.

2. FYI. WE HAVE NO DEROGATORY INFORMATION CONCERNING THE CONSIGNEE. AS NOTED ABOVE, OUR CONCERN IS THAT THE SOPHISTICATED CAPABILITY GIVEN THE SYSTEM BY ITS DIGITAL ANALYSIS COMPONENTS IS BEYOND WHAT IS ACTUALLY NEEDED MAKING DIVERSION TO MILITARY-ORIENTED USES A DISTINCT POSSIBILITY. END FYI.

3. BEYOND THE DECISION IN THE INSTANT CASE, WE HOPE THAT OUR RATIONALE CAN BE USED TO DRAW OUT THE OTHER PCS ON A REVISED 1362 DEFINITION. PREVIOUS DISCUSSION ENDED WITH A US COMMITMENT, AS YET UNFULFILLED, TO PROVIDE CLARIFICATION OF THE COVERAGE OF OUR PROPOSAL. THE FRENCH ESPECIALLY DESIRED THIS CLARIFICATION. BECAUSE OUR TECHNICAL REVIEW IN PREPARATION FOR THE 1978 LIST REVIEW HAS TENDED TO RE-AFFIRM THE VALIDITY OF THE BASIC US APPROACH AND PARAMETERS, IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF THE US DEL COULD APPROACH THE FRENCH DEL, PERHAPS JOINTLY WITH THE UK DEL, TO DETERMINE IF THE USG RATIONALE ON THIS CASE PROVIDES SUFFICIENT CLARIFICATION TO MEET PREVIOUS

FRENCH OBJECTIONS AND IF NOT, WE WOULD APPRECIATE FRENCH
COMMENTS ON WAYS WE COULD IMPROVE OUR DEFINITION. IF

PRESSED FOR CLARIFICATION OF "SPECIALIZED ANCILLIARY
EQUIPMENT", EXAMPLES DRAWN FROM THE UK CASE WOULD INCLUDE
ITEMS (1) MODEL 970 VIBRATOR; (2) MODEL CU 980 VIBRATOR
COOLING UNIT; (4) MODEL MPA 48 MODULAR POWER AMPLIFIER;
(7) MK. VB SINE CONTROL CONSOLE (THE CONSOLE ONLY);
(7) (F) 4911 MOTION ANALYSER; (11) SLIP TABLE; AND
(12) DIGITAL RANDOM CONTROL SYSTEM AND SOFTWARE. THESE
ITEMS WOULD BE NORMALLY EMBARGOED IF SHIPPED SEPARATELY. VANCE

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